

## Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ST-01 /012 W

----- 115541

R 280800Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3177

INFO USDESPATCH AGENT NEW YORK

US DESPATCH AGENT BALTIMORE

UNCLAS TEHRAN 8392

E. O.11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, ATRN, ASUP, IR

SUBJ: SHIPPING AND SUPPLIES

FOR: CONOLLY NEA/EX FROM FERRIS

1. BUREAU AND OPR/ST HAVE RECEIVED SPATE OF CABLES FROM POST  
DESCRIBING LOCAL SUPPLY DIFFICULTIES, NECESSITY FOR WHICH IS  
REGRETED. HOWEVER, SITUATION IS WORSENING RATHER THAN BETTERING.

2. OUR OFFICIAL SUPPLIES IN LARGE PART ARE ABOARD SS STONEWALL  
JACKSON, RECENTLY IN STREAM AT KHORRAMSHahr. ESTIMATED BERTHING  
DATE IS MID OCTOBER, BY WHICH TIME EMBASSY WILL HAVE EXHAUSTED  
MOST OF ITS OFFICE SUPPLIES. NO POSSIBILITY EXISTS FOR EARLY  
DOCKING. LOCAL AGENTS ADVISE THAT ANY OTHER ARRANGEMENT TO TAKE  
OFF OUR CARGO WOULD BE FINANCIALLY PROHIBITIVE.

3. MEDSPAN, INC., OPERATE THE ONLY SHIPS TO IRAN THAT MAY IMMEDIATELY UNLOAD, BUT UP TO NOW MEDSPAN/IRAN HAS BEEN UNABLE ARRANGE CLEARANCE OUR CARGOES AND FORWARDING TO TEHRAN. WE ARE NOW WORKING AND NEGOTIATING WITH THEM TO DETERMINE HOW WE CAN IMPROVE OUR LOT, ESPECIALLY SINCE WE WILL BE DEPENDENT UPON OVERWORKED OR LACKADAISICAL LOCAL AGENTS IN ALL CLEARANCE ACTIONS ONCE CONSULATE KHORRAMSHahr CLOSES. IF MEDSPAN CANNOT ACT AS CLEARING AGENT AND OVERLAND TRUCKER, EMBASSY MAY HAVE TO UNDER-TAKE ALL THESE FUNCTIONS ITSELF WHICH MEANS OUR TDY-ING OUR CUSTOMS CLEARANCE EMPLOYEE WITH EMBASSY TRUCK AND DRIVER FOR LARGE SHIPMENTS.

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4. CAN DEPARTMENT ARRANGE TO COMBINE SHIPMENTS OF ALL CIVILIAN USG AGENCIES AT PORT OF BALTIMORE, RATHER THAN NEW YORK, AND SHIP IN TWENTY-FOOT CONTAINERS VIA MEDSPAN? POST CAN ABSORB ADDITIONAL COSTS SHIPPING GSA ORDERS TO BALTIMORE RATHER THAN NEW YORK. OUR TRUCK CAPACITY, HOWEVER, IS ONE 2-1/2 TON TRUCK HAVING BODY LENGTH, MINUS TAILGATE LIFT, OF 13 FEET. WE ARE SUGGESTING THE USE OF OUR OWN TRUCKING BECAUSE LOCAL GENTS HAVE LET OUR SHIPMENTS REMAIN IN CUSTOMS YARD AT PORT AS LONG AS FIFTEEN WEEKS.

5. PRECEDING DOES NOT NEGATE TEHRANS 8204 WHICH AGREES TRIAL AGAIN AMEXPORT VIA TURKEY.  
POST HAS LITTLE FAITH SUCH ROUTING, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT CANNOT BE USED DURING WINTER, AND WITHOUT MUCH PRIOR EXPERIENCE.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY HELPFUL COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS INTERESTED DEPT OFFICES MAY HAVE TO OFFER.  
HELMS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975TEHRAN08392  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750298-0248  
**From:** TEHRAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975087/aaaaaged.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hartledg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 DEC 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 DEC 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2004 by hartledg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SHIPPING AND SUPPLIES FOR: CONOLLY NEA/EX FROM FERRIS  
**TAGS:** AFSP, ATRN, ASUP, IR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006